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United States Patent [19]**Johnson et al.**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,610,590**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 11, 1997**[54] **MOTION SENSOR**[75] Inventors: **Mark Johnson**, Rensselaer; **Thomas Simkins**, Troy, both of N.Y.[73] Assignee: **The United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Army**, Washington, D.C.[21] Appl. No.: **596,396**[22] Filed: **Feb. 2, 1996****Related U.S. Application Data**

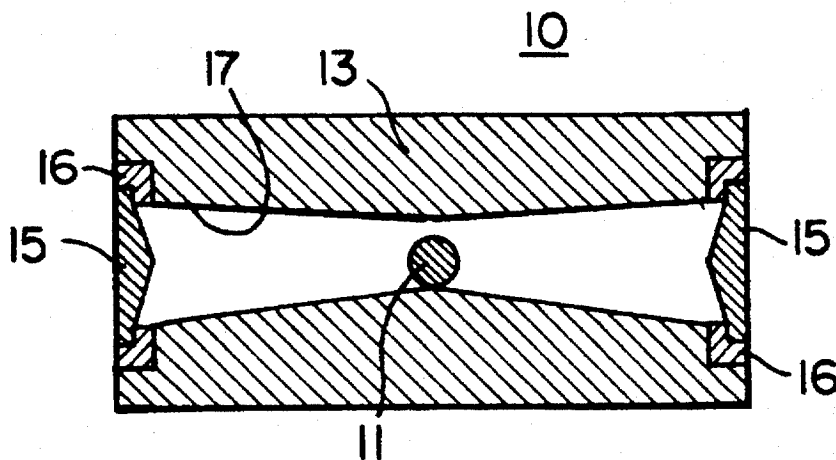
[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 443,911, May 18, 1995, Pat. No. 5,523,742, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 970, Jul. 7, 1995.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **G08B 23/00**[52] U.S. Cl. **340/573; 340/566; 128/782; 200/61.45 R**[58] Field of Search **340/573, 566, 340/693, 686, 687, 689; 128/782, 721; 200/61.45 R, 61.52**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Primary Examiner—Thomas Mullen*Assistant Examiner*—Benjamin C. Lee*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Saul Elbaum; Edward Goldberg; Michael C. Sachs[57] **ABSTRACT**

A motion detection monitor for patient movement, comprising a sensor for providing signals in response to patient movement to provide an alarm under predetermined conditions of patient movement. A processor, including an oscillator, is provided for receiving signals from the sensor, to provide oscillator interrupt signals proportional to active signals. The interrupt signals are observed within a contiguous series at time windows. The alarm condition is satisfied when interrupt signals are detected within each window. The sensor preferably includes a conductive sphere in a cylinder having an interior portion locating the sphere therein with conductive end plates and conductive inner surfaces, the inner surfaces being tapered to direct the sphere to an at rest condition in contact with at least one surface and at least a part of the inner surface in any orientation of the sensor. The motion detection device further includes jumper circuits for adjusting the parameters used to distinguish from casual motion and for providing a visible alarm. The motion detection device further includes a remote, tetherless receiver for receiving the alarm signal, the transmitter means repeatedly providing the alarm signal over a periodic interval until the processor is reset by an operator. The visible alarm is pulsed with relatively short pulses sufficient to activate the alarm, the short pulses being less than sufficient to activate the receiver.

11 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

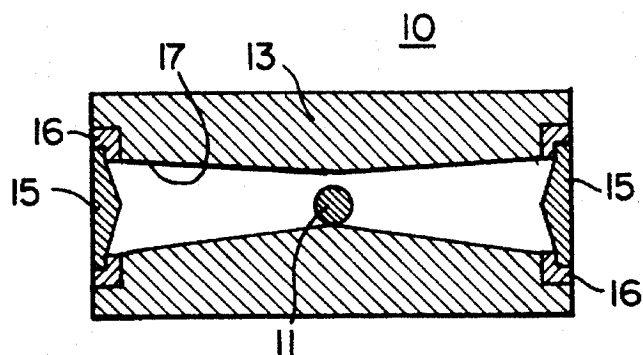


FIG. 1

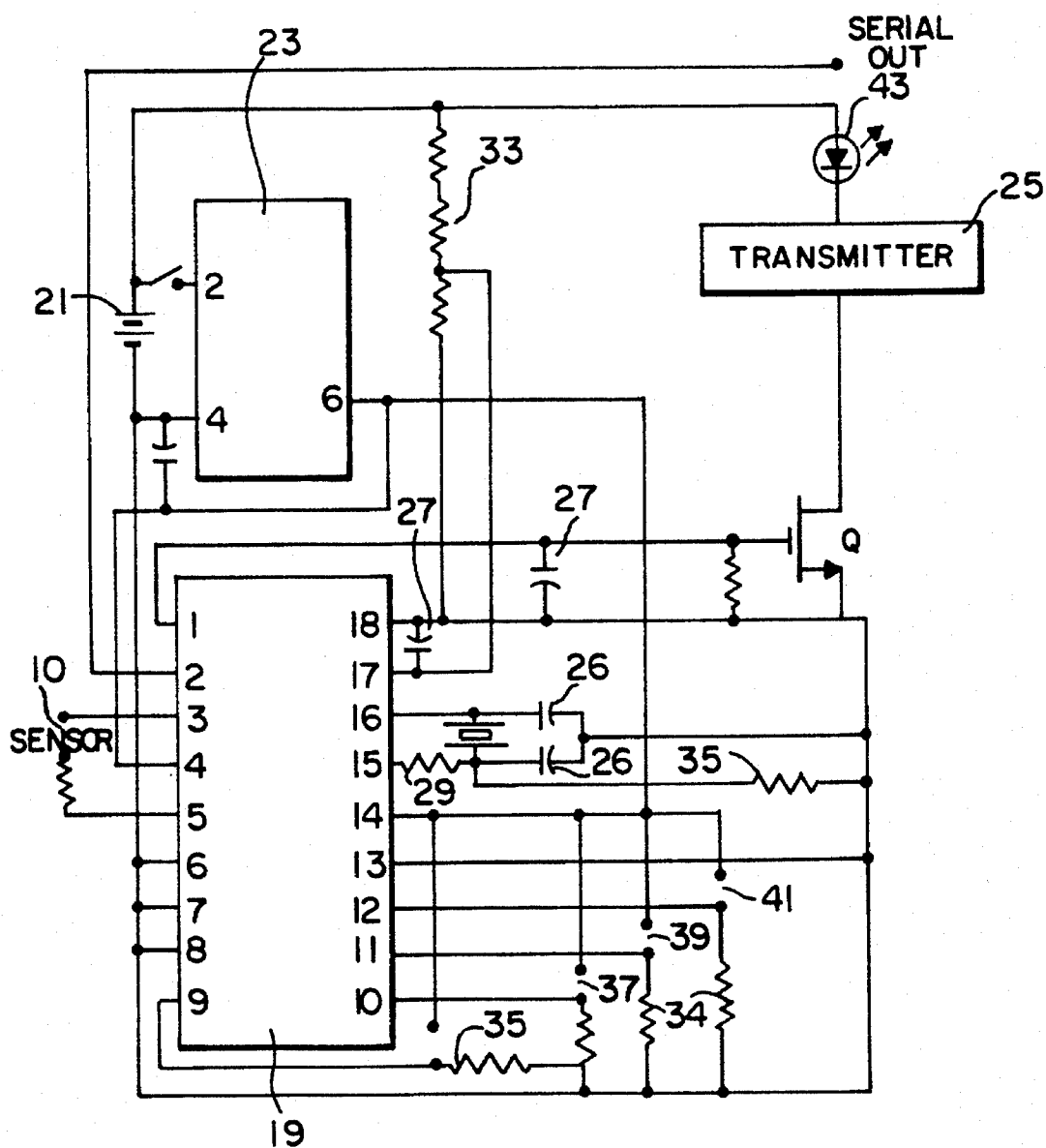


FIG. 2

MOTION SENSOR

The invention described herein may be made, used, or licensed by or for the Government for Governmental purposes.

This application is a continuation-in-part of application Ser. No. 08/443,911 filed May 18, 1995, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,523,742, which is a c-i-p of application Ser. No. 000,970 filed Jul. 7, 1995, the entire file wrapper contents of which applications are herewith incorporated by reference as though fully set forth at length.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a monitoring device for sleeping individuals who are afflicted with status epilepticus. More particularly the present invention relates to a motion sensor which more effectively detects a particular type of motion over a preselected period of time to then trigger an alarm upon recognition of that type of motion.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Epilepsy is a disorder of the brain characterized by recurring seizures, in which there are uncontrolled electrical discharges of brain cells. Epilepsy may arise from a very small area of damaged brain tissue or from the entire brain. There may be no apparent brain damage or damage may be limited to an area so small it cannot be detected. Therefore, in nearly one-half the cases, the cause of epilepsy is unknown.

There are several types of seizures associated with epilepsy, the most common of which are generalized tonic-clonic (grand mal), absence (petit mal), complex partial (psychomotor), and elementary partial (focal motor). Each seizure type can be characterized by various symptoms. However, the seizures are generally not life threatening, lasting at most up to three minutes. The exception is status epilepticus, also called continuous seizure state. This is the occurrence of repetitive or continuous seizures and affects approximately 3 to 5% of those individuals suffering from epilepsy. It can exist with all types of seizures and may result in irreversible brain damage or death without prompt medical treatment.

One of the specific problems encountered by parents having children afflicted with epilepsy, particularly status epilepticus, is the problem of alerting the parents when the child may be having an epileptic seizure during sleeping hours. One recourse has been for the parents to sleep with the child, in the same bed, hoping to be awakened by the seizure during its early stages when the seizure motion may be quite mild. Often, the parents will choose to supplement this safeguard by using an alarm clock, set to sound every hour, to awaken and observe the state of the child. This, of course, places an extraordinary burden on both the child and the parents and is inherently unreliable as seizures may occur at any time. Moreover, the intermittent sleep afforded the parents as well as the desire for privacy by the child and by the parents make the procedure impractical and inefficient.

Motion sensor devices are obvious solutions to the aforementioned problem, provided that such devices be designed to ignore the casual motions of a sleeping child (rolling over, etc.) while responding to those motions characteristic of a seizure, however mild at the beginning. Existing motion sensor devices such as accelerometers or displacement followers could conceivably be designed to detect certain types

of motion while ignoring others, but are invariably expensive, consume excessive power, and, when the required signal conditioning equipment is included, form a bulky package. Moreover, these devices commonly require electrical connections between the transducer (affixed to the patient) and its associated equipment located near, but not on, the patient.

One system has been proposed for use in monitoring children afflicted with status epilepticus, and is disclosed in a co-pending application having Ser. No. 08/443,911, filed May 18, 1995, which depends eventually, via an intermediate application (Ser. No. 08/312,853, filed Sep. 23, 1994) from an application having Ser. No. 08/154,324, filed on Nov. 18, 1993. In those applications, a hollow cylinder, capped at each end respectively by an electrically conductive circular plate that is electrically insulated from the cylinder such that the plates and cylinder are connected via an electronic circuit to DC voltage source. The plates are of the same polarity but opposite to the cylinder. An electrically conductive ball is placed in the cylinder and is free to roll to establish a closed electrical path at either end of the cylinder by being in contact with an end plate and the cylinder's interior surface. Electrical current makes and breaks are detected and monitored as the ball moves in a closed electrical path. When the predetermined pattern is detected, an alarm is sounded.

One of the major drawbacks of the proposed system has been the need to continuously update the voltage integral in time, and thus make continuous comparisons with alarm threshold criteria, allowing the effects of sensor variability to cause a large number of false alarms. If the parent or other person assigned to monitor the sleeping child is not allowed to rest, the device functionally has no value; thus false alarms are to be avoided if at all possible. Another drawback is that the prior art design does not always have contact between the sphere and the wall and the end cap of the cylinder.

Another drawback of the prior art system is that it required a radio transmitter/receiver system that was not as reliable as desired, due in part to uncertainty over the battery reserve, and the chance that tuning was in error. Further, the lack of a backup alarm, and improper resetting after a false alarm were sources of unreliability.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a device for sensing the motion of concern while ignoring, for the most part, other non-harmful motion such as ordinary movement during sleep.

Another object of this invention is to provide a monitoring device of the type described where the contact between the sphere, the wall and the end cap of the cylinder is increased in probability.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a monitoring device where the signal is received without need for tuning.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a simple, effective device for monitoring epileptics without disturbing the sleep of the patient or the observer unless there is a need for concern.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It has now been discovered that the above and other objects of the present invention may be accomplished in the following manner. Specifically, the invention comprises a

motion detection device for use as a monitor for patient movement, along with an improved sensor for use with the monitors of this invention and also with other monitoring systems.

The sensor is suitable to be attached to a patient for generating motion signals in response to movement of the patient. The sensor includes a conductive sphere and a cylinder having an interior portion locating the sphere inside this cylinder. The cylinder is constructed of conductive material and includes conductive end plates at each end. The inner surfaces of the cylinder are conductive and tapered or otherwise shaped to direct the sphere to an at rest condition in contact with at least one end plate and at least a part of an inner surface in any orientation of said sensor. The sensor has means for passing an electric current between the part of the inner surface it is in contact with and the end plates via the sphere when said sphere is in contact with those members. Movement of the cylinder causes movement of the sphere to provide intermittent contact with the end plates and the inner surface.

The present invention provides an improved monitor for detecting patient movement, particularly when the patient is asleep. The monitor system includes a sensor for providing electrical signals in response to patient movement. The preferred sensor is, of course, the sensor described herein. However, other sensors may be used as long as they provide the appropriate signals for the monitor device of this invention. Specifically, the signals comprise a passive signal when the patient is in the passive mode and an active signal when the patient is in the active mode, such as when suffering an epileptic seizure.

The monitor system includes a detector housing the sensor that responds to the signals from the sensor to provide an alarm under predetermined conditions of patient movement. A processor is contained within the detector and has a battery or other power supply for operation thereof. The processor is operably connected to receive the signals from the sensor.

The processor includes an oscillator, which is normally in a disabled mode so as to draw the least amount of current from the battery. Interrupt signals within the processor are generated that are proportional to the active mode signals. The presence or absence of the interrupt signals within a series of contiguous time windows is used to distinguish casual activity from a seizure. The absence of sensor activity within any window is an indication of casual motion. Interrupt signals in all windows satisfies the alarm criterion. In this case, the transmitter communicates with a receiver to provide an alarm signal upon receipt of the transmitter signal. As part of the processor, jumper circuits are included for adjusting the number of windows and the length of each window. The processor may also included a battery voltage testing circuit.

In one embodiment, the transmitter and receiver combination of this invention includes a remote receiver for receiving the alarm signal, and the transmitter means repeatedly provides or sends the alarm signal over a periodic interval until the processor is reset by an operator. It is also desirable to include a visible alarm on the device, so that one looking in on the patient can see that an alarm signal is being sent even when the receiver is not in service. The visible alarm (LED) is pulsed with relatively short pulses sufficient to activate the LED but less than sufficient to activate the receiver.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

For a more complete understanding of the invention, reference is hereby made to the drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a schematic, side elevational view in section of the sensor of this invention.

FIG. 2 is a schematic view and circuit diagram of the present invention illustrating the preferred embodiment as it is designed for use with an epileptic child needing overnight motion supervision.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

As shown in the FIG. 1, the sensor, 10 generally, includes a small, electrically conductive sphere 11 which is able to move within the confines of a small hollow cylinder 13 with closed ends 15. Sphere 11 is preferably made brass and is gold plated.

The wall 17 of cylinder 13 is conductive, as are the end plates 15, each of which are separated from the conductive portion of the cylinder by insulators 16, which may be rubber rings or other non conductive materials. The end plates 15 are electrically connected and form one pole of the switch with the cylinder wall being the other pole. When the sphere is in contact with either end plate and also in contact with the cylinder wall, the switch is mechanically closed. However, depending upon the nature of the contact surface, the contact resistance may be quite high and the switch may or may not be electrically closed. This mechanically closed position, with the sphere 11 in contact with the cylindrical surface 17 and one of the end caps 15 is the only stable position of the sphere 11, due to the geometry of the inner surface 17. Because of this, most rolling occurs with sphere 11 in this contact position. However, it is important to note that even small motions of the entire unit will cause the sphere 11 to roll, not necessarily to the extent that large motions, but sufficiently to roll while resting on the inside surface 17 and the end plate 15 with which the sphere 11 is in contact.

As the sphere 11 rolls, electrical contact with the wall is intermittent, due to the variations in contact resistance as noted above. In one experiment, response of the device of this invention was measured across a 1 Mohm pull down resistor over 4.096 VDC applied to the sensor. When volts are plotted against time over 1 second, it was found that virtually hundreds of responses were recorded, jumping from 0 volts to about 4.00 volts, with a small number of readings between these two values. This demonstrated that the sensor was functioning effectively to send a signal indicating movement of some form. This sensor is admirably suited for use with motion monitoring systems that utilize on-patient detection of certain types of movement, such as that caused by a seizure.

The present invention also includes a motion detection monitor that can employ the sensor of this invention and is described in that embodiment. It is to be understood, however, that other sensors that provide similar data are also usable with the present monitor. All that is required is that an electronic signal responsive to movement of the sensor be generated by the sensor in response to a passive mode in which the patient is at rest and an active signal when the patient is in the active mode. Shown in FIG. 2 is a schematic view of the monitor electronics for the preferred embodiment of the present invention. The microcontroller 19 used herein is an 8-bit RISC CMOS EPROM microcontroller designed to operate between 3 and 6 volts from DC to 20 MHz. High speed is not required so the microcontroller 19 operates at a low voltage (4 volts) and low clock speed (75 khz) to conserve power. Power is derived from a 12 volt

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power source **21**, that provides the appropriate voltage via voltage reference **23**, as part of transmitter **25**. The voltage reference **23** is a Maxim MAX874 low-dropout, precision voltage reference that is utilized to supply the 4 volts needed for the circuitry. This specific voltage reference was selected because of its low quiescent current (10 μ A) and dropout (200 mV) voltage. The MAX874 supplies up to 400 μ A at 4.3 volts to 20 volts. Nominal current flow of the circuit, including 12 volt passive transmitter operation, is 25 μ A when the processor **19** is in the sleep mode and 85 μ A during oscillation. When activated, the transmitter draws 5 mA. Although there are many influencing factors, the useful battery life of an Eveready® A23 12 volt alkaline battery or equivalent is estimated to be two months if the device is used every night for nine hours.

With the exception of the 20 pF crystal tank capacitors **26**, all capacitors **27** (1000 pF) are for decoupling, as shown in FIG. 2. A 262k feedback resistor **29** in the oscillator circuit is required to prevent over driving the crystal **30**. The 100k resistor **31** eliminates spurious oscillations and reduces standby current drain. Battery voltage is dropped by a

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voltage divider network **33** and periodically monitored by an on-chip A/D converter at pin p17 of processor **19**. Pull-down resistors **34** at terminals p9–p12 define the default logic settings for the jumpers. These jumpers may be used to disable the battery test via J1 jumper **35**, adjust the length and number at the time windows via J2 jumper **37** and J3 jumper **39**, and enable a debug mode for diagnostics via J4 jumper **41**. The diagnostic information is transmitted through a serial link at output port p2 of processor **19**.

Data is transmitted at 150 baud (6.7 msec pulses) with one start bit, eight data bits, and two stop bits. A 1488 or similar protocol converter must be used to insure RS232 compatibility. This is done with the DS1488 converter or diagnostic unit having –12 volts at pin 1 and +12 volts at pin p14. A 9155 VMOS power VET driven by microcontroller **19** via its output port p1 simultaneously switches the transmitter and alarm LED **43**. In operation, the sensor **10** generally is monitored at pin p3 via input to processor **19** via line **45**.

450 lines of microcontroller code define the system of operation. Presented below is the code listing:

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15                                     Code Listing

; assembler code for microcontrolled motion sensor
; assembler for Microchip PIC16C71

20 ; MACRO definitions

    out      MACRO      char
            movlw      char
            call      putchar
25            ENDM

; register definitions

30    RTCC      equ      01h
    STAT      equ      03h
    FILEREG    equ      04h
    PORTA     equ      05h
    PORTB     equ      06h
    ADCON0    equ      08h
35    ADCON1    equ      88h
    ADRES     equ      09h
    PCLATH    equ      0Ah
    INTCON    equ      0Bh
    TRISA     equ      85h
40    TRISB     equ      86h
    DLY_1     equ      0ch ; register for delay
    DLY_2     equ      0dh ; register for delay
    DELAY_1   equ      0eh ; registers for subroutines - keep w!
    DELAY_2   equ      0fh
45    DELAY_3   equ      10h
    PUTHEX_1  equ      11h
    PUTHEX_2  equ      12h
    PUTCHAR_1 equ      13h

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    PUTCHAR_2    equ    14h
    PUTCHAR_3    equ    15h
    CONV_1       equ    16h
    TEMP         equ    17h
5   BATT_1       equ    18h
    BATT_R       equ    19h
    DBG_1        equ    1ah
    BATT_S       equ    1bh    ; holds battery voltage
    CO_1         equ    1ch    ; count thresholds
10  CO_2         equ    1dh
    STRG_1       equ    1eh
    STRG_n       equ    1fh
    RTCC_C       equ    20h    ; RTCC counter
    PULS_1       equ    21h    ; pulse counter 1
15  PULS_2       equ    22h    ; pulse counter 2

; constants

20  SMP_1       equ    b'10001000'    ; sample delay time (100 msec)
    SMP_2       equ    b'00000010'
    LED0_1      equ    b'11111111'    ; LED off time (800 msec)
    LED0_2      equ    b'00001001'
    LED1_1      equ    b'00010011'    ; LED on time (25 msec)
    LED1_2      equ    b'00000011'
25  XMT_1       equ    b'11111111'    ; transmitter pulse width (500 mses)
    XMT_2       equ    b'00000101'
    ASC_1       equ    b'00001101'    ; ASCII delay time for 150 baud
    ASC_2       equ    b'00000001'    ; remember, need at least 1!
    COUNTn      equ    b'00000000'    ; upper byte of count threshold
30  COUNT       equ    b'11010000'    ; normal 30 sec count limit (lower)
    COUNTi      equ    b'11000000'    ; increased sensitivity
    COUNTd      equ    b'11100000'    ; decreased sensitivity
    BATT_rf     equ    h'B0'          ;holds minimum battery voltage

35  org         h'0000'
    goto        start                ; location 0000
    goto        start                ; location 0001
    goto        start                ; location 0002
    goto        start                ; location 0003

40  ;           interrupts occur at location 4

    btfsc      INTCON, 3             ; bit 3 = port change interrupt on RB4
    goto       acquire               ; begin getting data
45  decfsz     RTCC_C                ; RTCC interrup here (bit 5)
    goto       acquire               ; keep getting data->acquire to reset

    INTCON     goto       test        ; times up! compare results

50  ; start
    clrf       INTCON
    clrwdt
    movlw      b'00000010'          RAO,RA1=analog RA2,RA3=digital Vddref
    movlf      ADCON1
    movlw      b'10100000'          ; 32*tosc, in on RA0, disable A/D
55  movwf      ADCON0
    movlw      b'00010011'          ; define PORTA inputs and outputs,

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    tris    PORTA
    bcf     PORTA, 2 ; ensure transistor is off
    btfsc   PORTB, 4 ; if RB4 set, set output high
    bsf     PORTA, 3

5      movlw b'11111111' ; port B is all inputs
    tris    PORTB

;
10     movlw COUNTh ; upper byte of count threshold
    movwf   CO_2
    movlw   COUNT
    btfsc   PORTB, 5
    movlw   COUNTi ; if RB5 set, increase sensitivity
    btfsc   PORTB, 6
15     movlw COUNTd ; if RB6 set, decrease sensitivity
    movwf   CO_1
    movlw   b'00001001' ; approx. 30 seconds of data
    movwf   RTCC_C
    clrf    RTCC
20     movlw b'110001111' ; RTCC prescale -> WDT prescale
    option ; instructions in book
    clrf    PULS_1 ; clear pulse count 1
    clrf    PULS_2 ; clears pulse count 2
    movlw   SMP_1 ; delay constants for sampling
25     movwf DLY_1
    movlw   SMP_2
    movwf   DLY_2

    movlw   b'10001000' ; enable only interrupt on RB4-RB7
30     movwf INTCON
    sleep
    goto    start ; WDT time-out executes next instruction

acquire clrwdt
35     clrf    INTCON
    movlw   b'11000111' ; no B pull-ups, RTCC prescale max
    option
    movlw   b'10100000' ; enable RTCC only, not port change
    movwf   INTCON
40     edge_1  movf    PORTB,w
    movft   TEMP
    edge_2  clrwdt
    movf    PORTB,w ; wait for results to change
    xorwf   TEMP,w ; insure result is put in w
45     btfsc   STAT,2
    goto    edge_2
    call    p_inc ; 16 bit increment
    call    delay ; wait for next 100 msec.
    goto    edge_1
50     ;
    p_inc  clrwdt ; increment 16 bits
    incf    PULS_1
    movf    PULS_1, w
    sorlwb  b'11111111'
55     btfss   STAT,2 ; status bit 2 set if equal
    return ; not equal

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inef PULS_2      ; equal
clrf PULS_1
return

5  test          clrwdt          ; determine if count is enough
                        clrf INTCON
                        btfs PORTB,3      ; 1-> don't test battery
                        call battery      ; check battery voltage
10  btfs PORTB,4      ; if RB4 set, print debug data
                        call debug
                        movf PULS_2, w    ; check highest byte
                        subwf CO_2,w
                        btfs STAT, 0      ; check if measured count > CO_2
15  goto alarm
                        btfs STAT,2      ; check if w = count
                        goto start        ; W < CO_2
                        movf PULS_1,w     ; don't test for equality
                        subwf CO_1,w
20  btfs STAT,0      ; trigger alarm
                        goto start        ; W < CO_1

; alarm sends out a 500 ms pulse to the transmitter and flashes
; the LED. The transmitter LED is used, but 25 ms is not enough
25  ; to toggle the receiver. Every 30 sec. (approx 32 iterations
; through LED_1p, the signal is retransmitted in case the device
; was not reset, or didn't work
alarm clrf INTCON
                        clrwdt
30  btfs PORTB, 4      ; if jumper set, print "alarm set"
                        call debuga
                        movlw b'00100111'
                        movwf TEMP        ; TEMP is now used as a counter
35  movlw XMT_2
                        movwf DLY_2
                        movlw XMT_1
                        movwf DLY_1
                        bsf PORTA, 2
                        call delay        ; set switch on time
40  ;
; flash LED
LED_1p clrwdt
45  movlw LED1_2      ; LED on
                        movwf DLY_2
                        movlw LED1_1
                        movwf DLY_1
                        bsf PORTA,2
                        call delay
50  movlw LED0_2      ;LED off
                        movwf DLY_2
                        movlw LED0_1
                        movwf DLY_1
                        bcf PORTA,2
55  call delay
                        decfsz TEMP      ; after FF iterations, retransmit

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goto LED_1p
goto alarm
;

5 delay      clrwdt          ;assume desired delays regs DLY_1 &
  DLY_2
movwf DELAY_3
clrf  DELAY_2
10 loop2     clrwdt
movf  DELAY_2,w
xorwf DLY_2,w
btfs  STAT,2      ; need at least 1 in DLY_2
goto  loop2c
movf  DELAY_3,w
15 loop2c    return
loop2c      incf  DELAY_2
clrf  DELAY_1
loop1       clrwdt
incf  DELAY_1
20 movf  DELAY_1,w
xorwf DLY_1,w
btfs  STAT,2
goto  loop1
goto  loop2
25 puthex    clrwdt          ; sends out w in two ASCII bytes
movwf PUTHEX_1
andlw b'11110000' ; send highest first -> it gets printed
30 first     movwf PUTHEX_2
swapf PUTHEX_2
movf  PUTHEX_2,w
call  conv      ; converts nibble to ASCII code,
call  putchar   ; sends data on port
35 movf  PUTHEX_1,w
andlw b'00001111'
call  conv
call  putchar
movf  PUTHEX_1,w ; don't lose w
40 return

conv         clrwdt          ; <converts nibble in w to ASCII code-> w
movwf CONV_1  ; save w
45 sublw b'00001001'
movlw b'00000000' ; movlw doesn't affect status bits
btfs  STAT,0    ; test if 0-9 or A-F, results -> w
addlw b'00000111' ; A-F
addlw b'00110000'
addwf CONV_1
50 movf  CONV_1,w ; w contains ASCII code
return

putchar      clrwdt          ; sends byte in w on PRTA 3
movwf PUTCHAR_1 ; retain w value
55 movwf PUTCHAR_2 ; working register to shift
movlw ASC_2

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        movlw DLY_2
        movlw ASC_1          ; ensure correct delay sequence
        movlw DLY_1
        movlw b'00001000'    ; bit count
5      movwf PUTCHAR_3
        bcf   PORTA,3         ; start bit
        call  delay
        putchr1 btfscl PUTCHAR_2,0
        goto  putchr2
10      bcf   PORTA,3
        goto  putchr3
        putchr2 bsf   PORTA, 3
        putchr3 call  delay
        rrf   PUTCHAR_2
15      decfsz PUTCHAR_3
        goto  putchr1
        bsf   PORTA,3
        call  delay          ; 2 stop bits
        call  delay
20      movf  PUTCHAR_1,w     ; keep w value
        return

battery clrwdt
25      movwf BATT_1         ; save w
        bsf   ADCON0,0       ; enable A/D
        bsf   ADCON0,2       ; start conversion
        batt1 clrwdt
        btfscl ADCON0,2       ; wait for conversion to complete
        goto  batt1
30      movf  ADRES,w
        movwf BATT_R         ; save results for debut
        sublw BATT_rf
        btfscl STAT,0        ; check if measured voltage too low
        goto  alarm
35      bcf   ADCON0,0       ; disable A/D converter
        movf  BATT_1,w       ; restore w
        return

40      crlf                ; output a cr and lf
        movlw h'0d'
        call  putchar
        movlw h'0a'
        call  putchar
        return
45      ; debugf
        clrwdt
        movwf DBG_1          ; save w
        out   "d"
        out   "o"
50      out   "n"
        out   "e"
        call  crlf
        out   "c"
        out   "o"
55      out   "u"
        out   "n"

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out    "t"
out    " "
out    "="
out    " "
5      movf PULS_2,w      ; print 4 bytes of count
      call puthex
      movf PULS_1,w
      call puthex
      call crlf
10     out    "t"
      out    "h"
      out    "r"
      out    "e"
      out    "s"
15     out    "h"
      out    "o"
      out    "l"
      out    "d"
      out    " "
20     out    "="
      out    " "
      btfsc PORTB,5
      goto debugi        ; print "increased"
      btfsc PORTB,6
25     goto debugd        ; print "decreased"
      out    "n"
      out    "o"
      out    "r"
      out    "m"
30     out    "a"
      out    "l"
      goto debugse
      debugi
      out    "l"
      out    "n"
35     out    "c"
      out    "r"
      out    "e"
      out    "a"
      out    "s"
40     out    "e"
      out    "d"
      goto debugse
      debugd
      out    "d"
      out    "e"
45     out    "c"
      out    "r"
      out    "e"
      out    "a"
      out    "s"
50     out    "e"
      out    "d"
      debugse
      out    " "
      out    "s"
55     out    "e"
      out    "n"
      out    "s"

```

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```

5      out    "i"
      out    "t"
      out    "i"
      out    "v"
      out    "i"
      out    "t"
      out    "y"
      out    " "
10     out    "("
      movf   CO_2,w      ; print threshold values
      call   puthex
      movf   CO_1,w
      call   puthex
      out    ")"
15     call   crlf
      out    "b"
      out    "a"
      out    "t"
      out    "t"
20     out    "e"
      out    "r"
      out    "y"
      out    " "
      out    "v"
25     out    "o"
      out    "l"
      out    "t"
      out    "a"
      out    "g"
30     out    "e"
      out    " "
      btfsc  PORTB,3     ; 1-> don't test battery
      goto   debug0
      out    "="
35     out    " "
      movf   BATT_R,w
      call   puthex      ; print battery voltage
      goto   debugx
40     debug0 out    "t"
      out    "e"
      out    "s"
      out    "t"
      out    " "
      out    "d"
45     out    "i"
      out    "s"
      out    "a"
      out    "b"
      out    "l"
50     out    "e"
      out    "d"
      debugx call   crlf
      movf   DBG_1,w
      return
55     ; debuga  clrwdt

```

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```
movwf DBG_1
out    "a"
out    "l"
out    "a"
5      out    "r"
out    "m"
out    " "
out    "s"
out    "e"
10     out    "t"
call   crlf
movf   DBG_1,w
return
goto start
15     remaining memory filled with 'goto start' instructions
```

Upon power-up, processor 19 interrupts are all disabled and the input/output port definitions established. The A/D converter characteristics are defined, but the converter is disabled to conserve power. The jumpers are monitored and the system initialized after which the processor enters a power saving sleep mode. Although a watchdog timer is available that is capable of resetting the system every 2.5 seconds, it was disabled to conserve power. There is an excessive current draw while the processor drives the crystal tank circuit 30 into oscillation at lower frequencies. Approximately 500 msec are required to achieve stable oscillation, with a 230 μ A peak current draw.

While in the sleep mode, the oscillator 30 is disabled until it receives an interrupt indicating a signal change from the sensor. At this point the processor attempts to distinguish a seizure from casual motion by looking for uninterrupted sensor activity in contiguous windows of time. Absence of activity in any window resets the processor and it returns to a power saving sleep mode. If either the battery voltage is too low (nine volts) or the activity indicates a possible seizure, the processor toggles the receiver with a 500 msec transmitter pulse through the VMOS power transistor. For the transmitter/receiver control modules selected, pulse widths under 400 msec were unreliable and those in excess of 700 msec could cycle the receiver two times (i.e., no noticeable effect). The signal is retransmitted every 30 seconds until reset, turning the alarm on and off periodically. This ensures the device attached to the receiver will be activated in the event an alarm condition occurs before the time windows via J2 jumper 37 and J3 jumper 39, and enable a debug mode for diagnostics via J4 jumper 41. The diagnostic information is transmitted through a serial link at output port p2 of processor 19.

Data is transmitted at 150 baud (6.7 msec pulses) with one start bit, eight data bits, and two stop bits. A 1488 or similar protocol converter must be used to insure RS232 compatibility. This is done with the DS1488 converter or diagnostic unit having -12 volts at pin 1 and +12 volts at pin p14. A 9155 VMOS power VET driven by microcontroller 19 via its output port p1 simultaneously switches the transmitter and alarm LED 43. In operation, the sensor 10 generally is monitored at pin p3 via input to processor 19 via line 45.

450 lines of microcontroller code define the system of operation. Presented below is the code listing:

Upon power-up, processor 19 interrupts are all disabled and the input/output port definitions established. The A/D converter characteristics are defined, but the converter is disabled to conserve power. The jumpers are monitored and the system initialized after which the processor enters a power saving sleep mode. Although a watchdog timer is available that is capable of resetting the system every 2.5 seconds, it was disabled to conserve power. There is an excessive current draw while the processor drives the crystal tank circuit 30 into oscillation at lower frequencies. Approximately 500 msec are required to achieve stable oscillation, with a 230 μ A peak current draw.

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the transmitter/receiver control modules selected, pulse widths under 400 msec were unreliable and those in excess of 700 msec could cycle the receiver two times (i.e., no noticeable effect). The signal is retransmitted every 30 seconds until reset, turning the alarm on and off periodically. This ensures the device attached to the receiver will be activated in the event an alarm condition occurs before the receiver is set. This also reduces the risk of an alarm signal being completely masked. The LED 43 in series with the transmitter 25 is used as a local alarm by transmitting 25 msec bursts (3% duty cycle) between the 500 msec pulses. That is enough to flash the LED 43 but not enough to activate the receiver.

In the preferred embodiment, the sensor, electronics and transmitter are packaged in a small, lightweight, plastic housing that is easily attached to a child, such as in a package nominally 1.5 inches by 2.375 inches. An on/off switch may be recessed into the side of the housing. The receiver can be 'trained' and manually activated via a button on the top of the monitor. A 120 volt, 60 Hz alarm mechanism, such as a light, a radio or the like, is plugged into the receiver portion. The receiver is then plugged into a wall outlet within 30 feet of the monitor. As a safety precaution, the transmitter should be manually tested to ensure the signal is properly received. The monitor is then attached to the child and powered on.

In applying the motion sensor to an epileptic child, it is desirable that occasional movement not indicative of the seizure not trigger the alarm. The time window adjustments effectively selects a time period during which motion must be quasi-continuous for the alarm to be triggered. As such, the monitor is designed to ignore other movement not indicative of a seizure. However, if the alarm is triggered, the device attached to the receiver is toggled on/off every 30 seconds. The LED on the monitor also flashes. Of course the sensitivity can be adjusted or set at various settings depending upon the degree of sensitivity needed and the particular application of interest. When the motion sensor is applied to situations in which any or all motion is of interest, the sensitivity can be set at the maximum setting. The device may also be useful for monitoring brain injured persons in a health care facility. To reset the device, after the patient has been given assistance if needed, powering off the device and turning it back on will accomplish that end.

While particular embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated and described herein, it is not intended that these illustrations and descriptions limit the invention. Changes and modifications may be made herein without departing from the scope and spirit of the following claims.

We claim:

1. A sensor for use with motion detection monitors for patient movement, comprising:

a conductive sphere; and

a cylinder having an interior portion locating said sphere therein, said cylinder being formed by conductive end plates at the two ends and a conductive inner surface insulated therefrom, said inner surface being tapered to direct said sphere to an at rest condition in contact with either one of said end plates and at least part of said inner surface in any orientation of said sensor;

said sensor including means for passing an electric current between said inner surface and said either one of the end plates through said sphere when said sphere is in contact therewith, whereby movement of said cylinder causes movement of said sphere to provide intermittent contact with said either one of the end plates and said inner surface.

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2. The sensor of claim 1, which further includes means for passing an electric current between said inner surface at said either one of the end plates through said sphere when said sphere is in contact therewith.

3. The sensor of claim 1, wherein said end plates are configured to assist location of said sphere in said at rest condition.

4. The sensor of claim 3, wherein said sphere surface formed from brass and is gold plated.

5. A motion detection monitor for patient movement, comprising:

a sensor for providing electrical signals in response to patient movement, said signals comprising a passive signal in passive mode and an active signal in the active mode; and

detector means housing said sensor for responding to said signals from said sensor to provide an alarm under predetermined conditions of patient movement;

a processor contained within said detector means and having a power supply for operation thereof, said processor including means for receiving said signals from said sensor, said processor including an oscillator, said oscillator being in a normally disabled mode;

means for providing oscillator interrupt signals proportional to said active mode signals and including counter means for counting interrupt signals over a predetermined period of time to form acquired data, said processor further including comparator means for comparing said acquired data with threshold data to provide a transmitter signal if the comparison finds a predetermined condition; and

transmitter/receiver means for providing an alarm signal upon receipt of said transmitter signal;

wherein said sensor includes:

a conductive here; and

a cylinder having an interior portion locating said sphere therein, said cylinder being formed by conductive end plates at the two ends and a conductive inner surface insulated therefrom, said inner surface

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being tapered to direct said sphere to an at rest condition in contact with either one of said end plates and at least a part of said inner surface in any orientation of said sensor;

said sensor including means for passing an electric current between said inner surface and said either one of the end plates through said sphere when said sphere is in contact therewith, whereby movement of said cylinder causes movement of said sphere to provide intermittent contact with said either one of the end plates and said inner surface.

6. The motion detection device of claim 5, which further includes jumper means in said processor for adjusting the sensitivity of said comparator means.

7. The motion detection device of claim 5, wherein said processor included battery voltage testing means.

8. The motion detection device of claim 5, which further includes a remote receiver for receiving said alarm signal, said transmitter/receiver means repeatedly providing said alarm signal over a periodic interval until said processor is reset by an operator.

9. The motion detection device of claim 5, wherein said sensor comprises a conductive rolling sphere in a cylindrical chamber having a conductive wall with one electrical pole and end plates electrically insulated from said conductive wall and having the other electrical pole such that movement of said sensor caused by movement of said cylinder will generate intermittent electrical contact between one end plate and the cylinder wall, said sensor including means for passing an electric current between said inner surface and said one end plate through said sphere when said sphere is in contact therewith.

10. The motion detection device of claim 5, which further includes visible means thereon.

11. The motion detection device of claim 10, wherein said visible alarm is pulsed with relatively short pulses sufficient to activate said alarm, said short pulses being less than sufficient to activate a receiver.

* * * * *